Sarkaria Commission had asked for. So, there is no question of any constructive non-cooperation. It is full cooperation that we are trying to give to them. But there is definitely another view. We are still considering that aspect of the question. If the Government of India were to submit its own memorandum to the Sarkaria Commission, it will mean that the Central Government is trying to commit its position that they have taken on a particular point of view. But there is also another aspect of the question and that is, if the Central Government does not submit anything to the Sarkaria Commission, it might be that we will be getting a lop-sided view of the entire matter. So, both these aspects are being considered and we have not taken a view or a final decision about it.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Since Mr. Ghulam Rasool Kar is not here, Ghulam Rasool Matto may be allowed to get the reply from him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question—Hon. Member not here. Question No. 66.

*65. [*The questioner* (*Shri Gulam Rasool Kar*) *was absent for answer* vide *col.* 30 infra].

राज्य विहीन व्यक्तियों के संबंध में सिक्किम के मुख्य मंत्री द्वारा की गई मांगे

*66. **श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवानी:†**
श्री अश्विनी कुमार :

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सिक्किम के मुख्य मंत्री ने मांग की है कि सिक्किम प्रजा नियमन अधिनियम, 1961 के कारण राज्य-विहीन हुए सिक्किम के सभी तीस हजार व्यक्तियों को नागरिकता प्रदान की जाये क्योंकि वे वहां सदियों से रह है तथा लेपचा, भूटिया और नेपाली जैसे समुदायों को आरक्षण-प्रदान किया जाये और नेपाली भाषा को भारत के संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में स्थान प्रदान किया जाये; और

(ख) इन मांगों की जानकारी केन्द्रीय सरकार को कब से थी तथा क्या उन मांगों पर विचार किया गया है?

आन्तरिक सुरक्षा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरुण नेहरू) : (क) और (ख) जी हां, श्रीमान ये मांगे पहले भी समय-समय पर उठायी गयी है। मामले पर ध्यान दिया जा रहा है।

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Chairman, these demands have been raised from time to time in the past and they have been receiving attention. This is a stereotyped answer we have been getting for the past many many years. The latest was in the month of November when almost the same reply was given to this House.

Sir, I am more concerned with the first of these demands, namely, the problem of 30,000 stateless citizens. First of all, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government has made its own assessment of the dimensions of this problem. There is the statement made by the Chief Minister of Sikkim that there are 30,000 such people who have been living in Sikkim for centuries and still they are stateless. Are the dimensions of this problem correct as they have indicated them? This is the first question. What is the actual position according to the Government of India?

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: I have had discussions with the Chief Minister of Sikkim in this respect and he has recommended to us that we should send a body to Sikkim to investigate it. We have agreed to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says that the number has to be investigated and he is sending a team to investigate.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: This position of these stateless citizens is the result of a particular law. That law is the Sikkim Subjects Regulation Act, 1961. So long as Sikkim was not a part of India, the responsibility was of the Government of

†सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी द्वारा पूछा गया।

that country. Subsequently after the merger of Sikkim with India which is now 12 years back, how is it that we have allowed this kind of problem and of such huge dimensions to continue for the last 12 years? It is indeed an irony that in some parts of the country, some foreign nationals can acquire citizenship as a matter of course just by coming and residing here, while in other parts residents who have been residing for centuries are still deprived of citizenship. What precisely is the *modus operandi* in which you would like to solve this problem? Merely sending a deputation for discussion is no answer. I am sure that many discussions must have been held during the last 12 years.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: Sir, as I have said earlier, we had discussions with the Chief Minister and we are sending teams there. At this moment I would not like to make any comments on this because the matter is under discussion. We are aware of the problems which exist there.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Nepalese nationals are entitled to get recruited in various Government services including Assam Rifles in India.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: Sir, if they are Indian nationals, certainly they are entitled to be recruited.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Sir, the Minister while replying said that he had discussions with the Chief Minister of Sikkim and that he is sending a team. I would like to know specifically from the Minister whether these discussions pertain to the recognition of the principle of these people being recognised as Indian citizens or is it only to determine the number of people who have to be recognised.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: Both the issues, both the citizenship and the number of people who are there will be discussed plus there has been in the last meeting we had discussions, and as you know, 30,000 people were of Nepali origin and some said that they were Bhutias and Lepchas. So, we are going to investigate the whole gamut of the issue.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, *Prima facie*, it is absured that 30,000 people have been living for centuries. Had they been living for centuries, the number would have swelled upto 30 million by now. So, the number must not be like thus. However, Sir, even if they were a few hundred in a century or so, at least three generations or four generations must have come up. So, I would like to know as to what would be the fate of those who are born there. Secondly, since the State has merged with out Country, our Government inherited all the assets and the liabilities of that State and those people. So, if all those born in Sikkim were the citizens of Sikkim at that time, I think, they should be deemed to be the citizens of Sikkim even now. So, I would like to know the views of the Government on this point and what they propose to do.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: Sir, as per the Sikkim Subject Regulation Act of 1961, all of them who were in Sikkim prior to 1946 have been extended Indian citizenship. Out of a total population of 2,10,000, one lakh seventy thousand were given citizenship. And the balance which we are talking which is a figure between 30,000 to 40,000 are those who do not come under this category. That is why I said that we are examining this thing and we are sending a team to examine this.

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: Sir, the hon. Minister has not replied to one part of the question whether the Chief Minister of Sikkim has demanded that Nepali language be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. This demand was made by the people of Darjeeling also. And this demand has been supported by a number of political parties including our own. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what the Government of India's reaction is to this demand now coming from Sikkim and earlier coming from Darjeeling.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: Sir, the matter is under discussion with the Chief Minister. We have explained to him our prob-

lems in this regard which he has appreciated, and we will be discussing the issue again in the future.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, about the same question, about the Nepali language ....

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has been put.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: No, Sir. The Minister's reply is not clear. I want to know whether he has discussed with the Chief Minister of West Bengal as to what his view is because I know that he is insisting for several years that the Nepali language should be included in the Eighth Schedule. So, I would like to know whether the Minister has discussed with the Chief Minister of West Bengal and whether he appreciates the opinion of the Chief Minister of West Bengal and is going to implement something about that.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: Sir, I have not discussed the matter with the Chief Minitser of West Bengal on this. As and when we have a discussion, I will let the Member know.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Sir, it is not the Chief Minister of Sikkim or the Chief Minister of West Bengal who are to decide the citizenship of these people who have been residing there for the last so many years. May I know what has been the behaviour of these people during the last 12 years. Have they found employment in the other parts of the country or have there been any Government employees from amongst them? And what has been the behaviour of the Central Government towards these people in cases where the Central Government's responsibility has been involved?

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: Sir, the Government's responsibility pertains to the Indian citizens there. About those who do not have citizenship rights at the moment.. I have not really understood the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are they being employed there?

SHRI ARUN NEHRU: No. Sir. They cannot be.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 67.

Killing of Shri Tersem Singh Toor in London

*67. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:†
SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a brutal attack a moderate Sikh leader, Shri Tarsem Singh Toor, General-Secretary of the Indian Overseas Congress, was shot dead in West London on January 23-24, 1986, only a week after an attempt on the life of Shri Sangtar Singh Sandhu, Chief Organiser of Longowal Akali Dal in London; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government have strongly condemned the assassination of Shri Toor and have asked the U. K. Government to take immediate steps to apprehend and punish the culprits, to ensure the protection and security of Indian residents in the U. K.

श्री शान्ति त्यागी: ब्रिटेन में जो उग्रवादी एक्टिविटीज हो रही हैं उनके बारे में भारत वर्ष में बहुत बड़ी चिंता है । इससे ज्यादा चिंता इस बात पर है कि ब्रिटेन ने जो एक रुख अख्तियार किया है इन एक्टिविटीज के बारे में, समर्थन देने का तो इससे और भी चिंता बढ़ गयी है । यह भी पता चला है कि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इस बारे में ब्रिटेन की प्रधान मंत्री से किसी वक्त बातचीत की है । अभी एक और मामला सामने आया है कि दल खालसा के एक लीडर है जसवंत सिंह भाज, जिन्होंने पोलिटिकल एसाइलम के लिए आवेदन दिया था बर्तानवी सरकार का इस पर यह कहना है कि हम इस बात पर विचार कर रहे हैं, पोलिटिकल असाइलम देने के लिए ।

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shanti Tyagi.